



**Public Hearing
CITY OF AUSTIN
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 45
AGENDA DATE: Thu 10/28/2004
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SUBJECT: Conduct a public hearing and amend Ordinance No. 040913-05, the Fiscal Year 2004-2005 Approved Fees, Fines and Other Charges, that establishes Austin Energy's Electric Rate Schedule, to allow customers in the Customer Assistance Program to receive a charge equal to the Batch-1 Green Power Charge on all their monthly electric consumption rather than receive a flat monthly credit.

AMOUNT & SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

FISCAL NOTE: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

REQUESTING Austin Energy
DEPARTMENT:

**DIRECTOR'S
AUTHORIZATION:** Juan Garza

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol Harwell, Product Development Coordinator/ 322-6562

PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION: N/A

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission.

PURCHASING: N/A

MBE / WBE: N/A

Austin Energy proposes to amend the Residential Service tariff to allow customers in the Customer Assistance Program to receive a charge equal to the Batch-1 Green Power Charge on all of their consumption rather than receive a fuel charge credit based on a flat amount of consumption. Currently, residential electric customers who receive a waiver of the \$6.00 electric monthly customer charge also receive a fuel charge credit that is the difference between the fuel charge and the Batch-1 Green Power Charge multiplied by 1,000 kWh, regardless of usage. Originally, the flat credit amount was implemented because it was difficult to show a credit of this complexity on the customers' bill with the utility's current billing system. Under the proposed program, the utility will no longer be issuing a credit, thus the billing system issues are no longer valid.

The proposed program provides for customers with higher usage to receive lower bills, especially in the summer months when usage is at its highest. It also eliminates over crediting customers for usage that they do not have. In addition, applying the Green Power Charge on total consumption helps account for fuel usage properly.